

ASHBY-DE-LA-ZOUCH
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL



1958

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND THE

SURVEYOR AND PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR



ASHBY-DE-LA-ZOUCH RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

A N N U A L R E P O R T

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

including the Report of the

SURVEYOR AND PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

For the year 1958



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A. McM. W. Segerdai M.D., D.P.H.

SURVEYOR AND PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

C. S. Curtis M.A.P.H.I., C.R.S.H., DIP.P.H.H. (Hons)

ADDITIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

F.H. Wynne M.A.P.H.I., C.R.S.H., DIP.P.H.H. (Hons), A.I.B.S.

CHIEF ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANT

D. N. Rosillo A.R.I.B.A.

WATER ENGINEER AND ENGINEERING ASSISTANT

C. Mugglestone A.R.I.C.S., M.R.S.H.

Rural District Council Offices,
South Street,
Ashby-de-la-Zouch,
Leicestershire.

June, 1959.

To the Chairman and Members of
the Rural District Council of
Ashby-de-la-Zouch.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to present my Report for the year 1958.

It will be noted that there is a different layout of the vital statistics. This is in accordance with the Minister's wishes so that comparisons can be made.

According to the Registrar General's estimate, the population has increased from 13,890 to 13,950.

The birth rate (15.1) is slightly lower than last year (15.6) and lower than that for England and Wales (16.4).

The death rate (11.7) is lower than last year (12.1) and the same as that for England and Wales (11.7). The death rate of infants under one year is 33.2 compared with 13.8 in 1957, and England and Wales 22.5, and the still birth rate is 36.5 compared with 21.6 for England and Wales.

Of the 149 deaths during the year there were 8 deaths from accidents and suicide. The chief causes of death, as has been the case for some years past, were from diseases associated with elderly people.

The Cheshire Home for the sick now contains 30 patients, 15 men and 15 women, all chronic sick. Alterations at the home are now in progress for the reception of further patients.

It will be noted that all the parishes, with the exception of Bardon, have a piped water supply. The extension at Staunton Harold was completed during the year. A scheme for the chlorination of the water supplies was in course of preparation at the year end.

Sewerage schemes at Appleby Magna and Snarestone were almost completed at the end of the year and the scheme for Packington was in progress. There are 379 cesspools in the district and 22 cesspools were constructed and 21 abolished during the year. 141 closets were converted to the water carriage system during the year.

58 houses were completed during the year, making a total of 901 houses completed in the post-war period, of which 678 houses were completed by the local authority. The total number of applicants for Council houses at the end of the year was 372 and the number of applications received during the year was 72.

Implementation of the Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955, proceeded satisfactorily and no formal action has been necessary.

111 cases of infectious diseases were notified, of these 71 were measles, 6 whooping cough, 15 pneumonia and 19 scarlet fever. There were 5 deaths all from pneumonia.

I am pleased to record a considerable increase in the number of children being immunised against diphtheria. This is probably due to the desire for protection against whooping cough at the same time, and the publicity associated with poliomyelitis protection. I am unable at present to give any figures of the number of persons immunised against poliomyelitis.

Only two cases of tuberculosis, one male and one female, non-pulmonary, were notified during the year and there was one death from tuberculosis, non-pulmonary.

To the staff of the Public Health Department of the County Council and to Doctor Mair, Director of the Public Health Laboratory, I wish to extend my thanks for their willing help and co-operation.

Finally I wish to thank Mr. C. S. Curtis, Surveyor and Public Health Inspector, and to thank Mr. F. H. Wynne, Additional Public Health Inspector, for their invaluable help during the year and you, Ladies and Gentlemen, for your kindness and co-operation.

I remain,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

A. McM. W. Segerdahl
M.D., D.P.H.

Private Residence :
Belvoir Cottage.
Coalville.
Leicestershire.

Telephone Number
Coalville 144

SECTION A

Statistics and Social Conditions

Area (in acres)	28,267
Resident Population (R.G.'s estimate)	13,950
Number of inhabited houses	4,507
Rateable Value (1st April 1958)	£119,803
Sum represented by a penny rate	£465
Comparability factor - Births	1.00
Deaths	1.11

The chief industries in the area are agriculture; coal mining; opencast coal working; brickmaking; stoneware and pipemaking and stone quarrying. There are also small textile works and light engineering works.

No particular industry was noted as having a specially injurious effect on health during the year.

Vital Statistics

		<u>% England and Wales</u>
Live Births	211	
Live Birth rate	15.1	16.4
Still Births	8	
Still Birth rate per 1000 (live & still)	36.5	21.6
Total Births	219	
Infant Deaths	7	
Infantile mortality rate per 1000 live births	33.2	22.5
Infantile mortality rate per 1000 legitimate births	33.9	
Infantile mortality rate per 1000 illegitimate births	.0	
Neo-natal mortality rate (first four weeks) per 1000 related live births	23.7	16.2
Percentage of illegitimate live births	2.7	
Maternal deaths including abortion	.0	
Maternal mortality rate (including abortion) per 1000 total births	.0	0.43

Births

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Live Births : Legitimate	107	99	206
Illegitimate	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>5</u>
	<u>109</u>	<u>102</u>	<u>211</u>
Still Births : Legitimate	3	4	7
Illegitimate	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1</u>
	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>8</u>
Total Births (Live and Still)	<u>113</u>	<u>106</u>	<u>219</u>
Deaths	<u>87</u>	<u>62</u>	<u>149</u>
Death rate per 1000 population		11.7	
Death rate England and Wales		11.7	

Causes of Death during 1958

Diseases

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Tuberculosis, other	1	0	1
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	1	1	2
Malignant neoplasm, lung bronchus	2	0	2
Malignant neoplasm, breast	0	2	2
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	0	2	2
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	6	6	12
Leukaemias, aleukaemia	2	0	2
Diabetes	0	1	1
Vascular lesions of nervous system	13	16	29
Coronary disease, angina	15	3	18
Other heart disease	13	8	21
Other circulatory disease	2	4	6
Influenza	1	0	1
Pneumonia	4	1	5
Bronchitis	9	1	10
Other disease of respiratory system	1	2	3
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1	0	1
Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	0	1	1
Nephritis and Nephrosis	3	0	3
Hyperplasia of Prostate	2	0	2
Congenital malformations	1	2	3
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	4	10	14
Motor vehicle accidents	4	0	4
All other accidents	1	2	3
Suicide	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1</u>
	<u>87</u>	<u>62</u>	<u>149</u>

The case of non-pulmonary tuberculosis was in an institution for another illness and had not lived in the district for some time.

Chief causes of death were :

Disease of heart and circulation	79
Malignant and lymphatic neoplasms (Cancer)	20
Disease of respiratory system	18
Deaths from all accidents and suicide	8

Deaths of Infants under one year of age

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	3	4	7
Illegitimate	0	0	0
	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>7</u>

Deaths of Infants under four weeks of age

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	2	3	5
Illegitimate	0	0	0
	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>5</u>

SECTION B

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

Hospitals

All hospitals, except some private maternity and nursing homes, are under the Sheffield Regional Hospital Board.

The County Homes for the aged and destitute are under the County Council. When the inmates take ill they become the responsibility of the Regional Hospital Board.

Cheshire Home for the Sick

The home is entirely voluntary and not under the Regional Hospital Board.

At the end of the year there were 30 patients, 15 men and 15 women, all chronic sick.

One ward has been converted for use for Physio/and Occupational Therapy, and alterations are in progress for the reception of further patients shortly.

Treatment Centres and Clinics

There are none actually in the district. Infant welfare clinics are held every Thursday afternoon at the Baptist School, Ashby-de-la-Zouch and every second and fourth Thursday afternoon at the Centenary Methodist Church, Donisthorpe Road, Moira. At the Health Centre, Bridge Road, Coalville, an Ante-Natal clinic is available. The tuberculosis clinic is held at Markfield Sanatorium under the auspices of the Sheffield Regional Hospital Board.

Ambulance Facilities

The County Council is responsible for all facilities in the County. Colliery accidents are removed by ambulances provided by the National Coal Board stationed at Nailstone Colliery and at Measham Road, Oakthorpe.

Nursing in the Home

All district nursing and midwifery in the home is under the Leicestershire County Council.

Health Visiting

This work is provided by the Leicestershire County Council and the work of Health Visitor, School Nurse and Tuberculosis Visitor is combined in a single appointment.

The Diabetic Health Visitor attends the Diabetic Clinic at the Leicester Royal Infirmary and visits the patients in their homes.

Laboratory Facilities

Public Health Laboratory, Isolation
Hospital, Groby Road, Leicester.

The following examinations were made :

Throat and nose swabs	..	5
Faeces and Urine	..	14
Sputa	..	44
Waters	..	22
Ice Cream	..	13
Miscellaneous	..	<u>4</u>
		105
		<u>105</u>

Generally there is co-operation between the local authority and the services provided by the Executive Council and the Hospital Board, and the tendency is towards closer integration.

SECTION C

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT

Water Supply

Mains supplies have been satisfactory in quality and quantity.

Particulars of water supplies to dwelling houses :

Internal Mains Water Supply		Mains Water from External standpipes		Well Water Supply	
No. of dwelling houses	Population	No. of dwelling houses	Population	No. of dwelling houses	Population
4297	13,200	Est. 30	Est. 115	180	630

Number of parishes with piped supply of water :

From Public Mains : 16 From Private Reservoirs : Nil

Number of parishes without a piped supply of water :

One (Bardon)

In 30 cases a piped supply of water has been substituted for well water.

Water Supply from Wells

Number of Samples taken for Analysis			
Satisfactory		Unsatisfactory	
Chemical	Bacterio-logical	Chemical	Bacterio-logical
Nil	4	Nil	5

A scheme for the chlorination of water supplies is in course of preparation.

Sewage Disposal

Number of septic tanks constructed during the year : 22
 Number of cesspools abolished during the year : 21
 Number of cesspools in district 31st December 1958 : 379

Closet Accommodation

Total number in district on 31st December, 1958 :

Privies : 50 Pail Closets : 1061 W.C's. : 3652

Number of closets converted to water carriage
system during the year :

Privies : Nil Pails : 141

A grant of £10. 0. 0., or one half the cost, whichever is the lesser, is made towards the cost of conversion.

The contents of pails are emptied weekly and disposed of on to agricultural land and tips.

Public Cleansing

House refuse is removed by direct labour, using two Karrier Bantam 7 cubic yard and two 10 cubic yard refuse collection vehicles.

The number of parishes covered by routine collections is sixteen.

House refuse is disposed of to three controlled tips and one crude tip.

Sanitary Inspections of the Area

Total number of complaints received ... 102

Total number of premises at which
defects or nuisances were dealt with ... 93

Total number of defects or nuisances
dealt with ... 328

Inspections made

Animal Keeping	5
Bakehouses	6
Dairies	4
Drainage Works	438
Dwelling houses (all purposes)	638
Infectious diseases inquiries	23
Food premises	172
Refuse collection and disposal	78
Rodent control	(carried out by Council's Rodent Operator)
Shops	34
Slaughter-houses and Meat inspection	547
Tents, vans and sheds etc.,	56
Water supplies	18
Factories and Workplaces	85
Other inspections	908
	<u>3,012</u>

Notices

<u>Preliminary</u>	<u>Housing</u>	<u>Public Health</u>
Outstanding on 1st January 1958	-	30
Issued during the year	-	93
Complied with during the year	-	95
Statutory action necessary	-	1
Outstanding 31st December, 1958	-	28

Statutory

Outstanding on 1st January, 1958	-	-
Issued during the year	-	1
Complied with during year	-	1
Outstanding 31st December, 1958	-	-

Shops

Particulars of action taken during the year under the Provisions of Section 38 of the Shops Act, 1950.

	<u>Defects found</u>	<u>Defects remedied</u>
Sanitary conveniences	2	2
Washing facilities	3	3
Facilities for taking meals	2	2

Camping Sites

During the year 11 licences were issued in respect of movable dwellings under Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

Regulated Buildings

	<u>Number in district</u>	<u>Number of Inspections</u>
Tents, Vans, Sheds etc.,	11	56
Eradication of Bed bugs	:	No action necessary.
Pet Animal Act, 1951	:	No premises in area.
Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949	:	Routine parish by parish inspection, private dwellings treated free, business premises on a time plus material basis carried out by one man employed half time.
Schools	:	No action taken.
Swimming baths and Pools open to the Public	:	None in the area.

SECTION D

HOUSING

New Houses

Houses completed during year	T Y P E		Average cost per house excl. site works and land	Average rent exclusive of rates
	Prefab Permanent	Permanent		
By Local Authority	-	28	£ 1,484	21/1d. for 2 bed/flats to 24/1d. for 3 bed/houses
Private Enterprise	-	30	-	-

Houses in course of construction at year end

By Local Authority	-	-		
Private Enterprise	-	19		

Total number of post war houses completed by Local Authority 678

Total number of post war houses completed by private enterprise 223

Total number of applicants for Council houses at end of year 372

Number of applications received for Council houses during the year 72

Total number of Council houses in the district prior to the war (1939) 322

Total number of occupied houses in the district 4,507

SECTION E

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Ice Cream

Number of premises registered for manufacture and retail	...	...	Nil
Number of premises registered for manufacture only	...	...	Nil
Number of premises registered for retail only	...	...	45
Number of samples taken	:	13	

Results :

Grade 1	:	11
Grade 2	:	2

Milk Supply

Dairies (other than dairy farms) and distributors (Section 8 Milk & Dairies Regulations, 1949)

Number on Register	:	Dairies	2
		Distributors	18
Number of Inspections	:	Dairies	4
		Distributors	23

Biological Milk Samples

Number of routine bulk samples taken	...	56
Results satisfactory		56
Evidence of living Tubercule Bacilli	...	Nil
Evidence of Brucella Abortus		Nil

Bacteriological Milk Samples

56 samples of designated "Tuberculin Tested" milk were taken and 54 proved to be satisfactory and 2 unsatisfactory.

Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk)
Regulations, 1949

Particulars of Licences issued :

		<u>Pasteurised</u>	<u>Sterilised</u>
Dealer's Licences	...	7	-
Supplementary Licences	...	7	1

Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949

Particulars of Licences issued :

Dealer's Licences : 6

Supplementary Licences : 9

Meat and other Foods

Number of licenced slaughter houses in area	..	6
Number of animals slaughtered therein		2591
Number of animals examined therein		2591
Number of inspections of meat at time of slaughter		10%
Number of Knacker yards in area		1
Number of visits to Knacker yards		2

Meat Stalls

Number of inspections		Nil
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Meat Shops, Meat Stores etc

Number of inspections		14
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Places where food (other than meat) is kept or prepared for sale

Number of inspections		158
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Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955

Work in connection with the inspection of food premises continued actively during the year, and steady progress was made in obtaining general improvements where food is prepared or handled.

In all a total of 158 visits were made. It was felt that better results were obtained by personal visits rather than by the distribution of pamphlets, posters and similar propaganda.

Meat Inspection - Carcasses Inspected and Condemned

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and lambs	Pigs
Number Killed	537	307	nil	1352	395
Number Inspected	537	307	nil	1352	395
<u>All diseases except tuberculosis and cysticerchi</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	1	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ condemned	74	94	-	45	7
Percentage of number inspected affected with diseases other than tuberculosis and cysticerchi	17.69	30.61	-	3.32	1.77
<u>Tuberculosis only</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	nil	nil	-	nil	nil
Carcasses of which some part or organ condemned	13	27	-	nil	10
Percentage of number inspected affected with tuberculosis	2.42	8.79	-	nil	2.53
<u>Cysticercosis</u>					
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	nil	nil	-	nil	nil
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration	nil	nil	-	nil	nil
Generalised and totally condemned	nil	nil	-	nil	nil

SECTION F

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER
INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Infectious Disease (other than Tuberculosis) during 1958

Disease	Final No. after correction	Cases admitted to hospital	Total deaths
Scarlet Fever	19	1	-
Whooping Cough	6	-	-
Measles	71	-	-
Pneumonia	15	-	5
Total	111	1	5

Analysis under Age Groups According to
Registrar General's Return 118d

Age Group	Whooping Cough	Measles	Scarlet Fever
Under 1 year	1	1	1
1 to 2	-	4	-
2 to 3	1	4	-
3 to 4	-	6	3
4 to 5	2	10	1
5 to 9	2	42	14
10 to 14	-	2	-
15 to 24	-	-	-
25 and over	-	2	-
Total	6	71	19

Age Group	Pneumonia	Erysipelas
Under 5 years	5	-
5 to 14	1	-
15 to 44	2	-
45 to 64	5	-
65 and over	2	-
Totals	15	0

Table showing incidence of Notifiable
Disease in each Parish during year 1958

Parish	Whooping Cough	Measles	Pneumonia	Scarlet Fever
Appleby Magna	-	-	1	3
Coleorton	-	11	1	4
Heather	-	33	-	-
Measham	-	2	3	-
Osgathorpe	-	20	-	-
Ravenstone	3	1	3	-
Snarestone	1	-	2	4
Staunton Harold	-	1	-	-
Stretton-en-le- Field	-	-	1	-
Swannington	2	-	3	-
Worthington	-	3	1	8
Total	6	71	15	19

The following table shows the incidence of Measles
in each Parish monthly

Year 1958	Coleorton	Heather	Measham	Osgathorpe	Ravenstone	Staunton Harold	Worthington
January	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
February	-	4	1	-	-	-	-
March	-	17	1	-	-	-	-
April	-	11	-	-	-	-	-
May	5	1	-	12	1	-	3
June	3	-	-	7	-	-	-
July	3	-	-	1	-	-	-
August	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
September	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
October	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
November	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
December	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	11	33	2	20	1	1	3

Measles was prevalent during the first half of the year.

The symptomless carrier of Para Typhoid B notified in September 1957 eventually cleared during the year.

All the cases of scarlet fever, with one exception, were mild.

IMMUNISATION AGAINST DIPHTHERIA

Number of children who were immunised during the period
1st January 1958 - 31st December 1958

Age at 31st December 1958	Under 1 1958	1 1957	2 1956	3 1955	4 1954	5 1953	6 1952	7 1951	8 1950	9 1949	10 1948	11 1947	12 1946	Total
Primary Immunis- ation	62	146	9	5	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	226
Booster Injection	0	0	0	1	32	88	13	1	2	2	0	0	0	139

Statement of Particulars appearing in the
Register of Notifications of cases of
Tuberculosis for the year 1958

	Pulmonary		Non-Pul.		Total
	M.	F.	M.	F.	
Number of cases on Register at commencement of year	21	14	7	11	53
Number of cases notified for the first time during the year	1	-	1	-	2
Number of cases restored to register	-	-	-	-	-
Number of cases added to Register and brought to notice other than by formal notification	1	-	-	-	1
Number of cases removed from the Register during the year	1	1	3	1	6
Number of cases remaining on the Register at end of year	22	13	5	10	50

Tuberculosis - Year 1958.

Causes of Removal from Register

	M A L E S		F E M A L E S		Total
	Pulmonary	Non-Pul	Pulmonary	Non-Pul	
Cured	0	2	1	1	4
Left District	1	0	0	0	1
Diagnosis not confirmed	0	1	0	0	1
Total	1	3	1	1	6

FACTORIES ACT, 1937 and 1948

Resumé of the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health in respect of the year 1958, which has already been sent to the Ministry of Labour and National Service, Orphanage Road, Watford, Herts

Part I of the Act

Inspections for purposes of provisions as to Health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

	<u>No. on Register</u>	<u>No. of Inspections</u>
Factories in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	28	32
Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	16	53
Total	44	85

No. of cases in which defects were found

	<u>Found</u>	<u>Remedied</u>	<u>Referred by H. M. Inspector</u>
Unsuitable or defective	-	-	-

Part VIII of the Act

Outworkers (Sections 110 and 111)

<u>Nature of Work</u>	<u>Number of Outworkers in August list required by Sections 111 (1) (c)</u>
Wearing apparel, making etc.,	4

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE
SURVEYOR AND PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

Rural District Council Offices,
South Street,
Ashby-de-la-Zouch,
Leicestershire.

June, 1959.

To the Chairman and Members of
the Rural District Council of
Ashby-de-la-Zouch.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

During the year 1958, the only new Act affecting public health was the Slaughterhouses Act, 1958, which will ultimately have considerable effect upon the method of providing the nation's meat supplies. There were a small number of regulations made under various existing Acts, and Acts which became law during the previous two or three years. Regulations made under the Clean Air Act came into force and it is now possible for local authorities to have a much better control over the emission of smoke into the atmosphere, and also to define areas in which it is an offence to emit smoke of any description, although this latter is a power of much more use to urban rather than rural authorities.

The clearance of unfit dwellings continued, a further 28 houses becoming subject to closing or demolition orders, making a total of 201 houses dealt with under the Council's programme. In addition to this, three houses which would normally have been condemned were renovated following the commencement of formal action by the Council, and a further five houses became subject to undertakings to renovate given to the Council.

The number of private houses completed during the year showed an improvement over 1957, but was still well below the 1956 figure. It remains difficult to find building land in the district. Whilst it is reasonably easy to find land in most parishes for the individual private house, it is not easy to obtain land for small housing estates, whether they be for private development or Council development. A number of small private builders have expressed interest in the purchase of land

in various parishes, with a view to the erection of small groups of houses, but highway, planning or drainage problems always seem to prevent the necessary permission being granted. In Newton Burgoland and Heather, a considerable amount of time has been spent in finding suitable sites, but where the three obstacles already referred to have been overcome, there has been reluctance on the part of owners to sell for Council development. In fairness, it must be admitted that this is only natural where valuable farmland is concerned and particularly where the land is "home pasture".

The Council's Worthington housing scheme has been completed and a ceremony was held to mark the opening of the 1000th Council house erected in the district.

COMPLAINTS

Set out below are details of the various complaints which have been received together with a table showing repairs and improvements carried out.

Dwellings rendered fit or defects remedied	...	...	48
Complaints received	...	...	102
Premises inspected	...	...	102
Groundless complaints	...	...	9
Revisits to work in hand	...	...	226
Premises at which nuisances abated	...	...	95
Informal Notices served	...	...	93
Statutory Notices served	...	...	1
Damp proof courses inserted	...	...	3
Water closets repaired	...	...	2
Pan closets repaired	...	...	2
Water closets provided	...	...	1
Drains relaid, repaired, trapped or ventilated, or cleared (does not include sewers)	...	...	35
Cesspools cleansed or repaired	...	...	349
Septic tanks provided	...	...	22
Chimneys repaired	...	...	17
Damp walls remedied	...	...	21
Doors repaired	...	...	19
Windows repaired or renewed	...	...	41
Fireplaces repaired, or new ones provided	...	...	18
Plastering repaired	...	...	35
Sinks provided	...	...	8
Kitchens provided	...	...	1
Obstructed footpaths cleared	...	...	1
Water laid on	...	...	1
Roofs repaired	...	...	22
Hedges cut	...	...	1

Eaves gutters repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	18
Floors repaired	...	...	...	...	20
Smoke nuisances abated	...	...	...	...	2
Animal nuisances abated	...	...	...	...	5
Staircases repaired	...	...	...	...	3
Walls repaired	...	...	...	...	9
Pantries repaired or provided	...	...	...	...	5
Flooding abated	...	...	...	...	3
Ditches cleaned out	...	...	...	...	9
Dangerous buildings made safe	...	...	...	...	4
Offensive accumulations removed	...	...	...	...	2
Miscellaneous nuisances abated	...	...	...	...	5

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT

The system whereby a part time rodent operator is employed has continued. The man works alternate weeks on these duties.

Free treatment is carried out for domestic premises and a charge made for treatment at business and agricultural premises. The Council's sewage works, refuse tips, sewers &c., are baited regularly.

A total of 1590 visits were made by the operator and 187 premises treated.

FOOD INSPECTION

Progress continued in relation to food handling, and there was a steady improvement in the conditions under which food is prepared and handled. Efforts have been directed primarily to places of production and preparation, such as catering establishments, bakeries &c. Much spade work in connection with licenced premises is at at last beginning to show results.

Number of visits to food premises : 717

Slaughter Houses

Number of licenced premises	...	...	...	...	6
Number of informal notices served	...	...	...	...	1
Number of informal notices complied with	...	...	...	...	1
Number of visits made	...	...	...	...	545

Ice Cream

Number of premises registered	...	...	...	...	45
Number of premises in use	...	...	...	...	28

Number of samples taken	:	13
Grade 1	:	11
Grade 2	:	2

Food Condemned (other than meat at slaughterhouses)

Corned beef	:	6 lbs
Ham	:	11 lbs

Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949

During the year licences as follows were issued :

Supplementary Licences to sell				
"Tuberculin Tested" milk	...	...	...	9
Dealer's Licences to sell				
"Tuberculin Tested" milk	...	...	...	6
Supplementary Licences to use				
special Designation "Pasteurised"	...	...		7
Supplementary Licences to use				
special Designation "Sterilised"	...	...		1
Dealer's Licences to use the				
special Designation "Pasteurised"	...	...		7
Dealer's Licence to open and cool				
"Tuberculin Tested" milk	...	...		1

Routine inspections of distributing vehicles have again continued to be carried out.

During the year 56 samples of milk were taken for biological examination and 56 samples for bacteriological examination. In addition 29 "follow-up" samples were taken.

The Ashby-de-la-Zouch Rural District is in a specified area and no milk, other than designated milk, may be sold.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

The bonus scheme continued to work satisfactorily. Pail closets have been emptied at weekly intervals and bins every seven working days. (A five day week is worked).

During the year under review 349 cesspools were emptied.

Dustbins have continued to be provided as a charge against the rates, 431 being issued during the year. This number included 28 to new Council houses.

78 visits were made to properties in connection with refuse collection.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937

Number of inspections of factories : 85

TENTS, VANS AND SHEDS

Licences have been issued in respect of 11 caravans. These continue to be spread throughout the district. A total of 56 inspections have been made.

The policy of applicants first being requested to make application under the Town and Country Planning Act, 1947, has again continued. If this is granted, an application for licencing under the Public Health Act, 1936 is then placed before the Council for their consideration.

NEW DRAINAGE AND CLOSET CONVERSIONS

Grants of not more than £10. 0. 0. per closet converted is given to encourage owners to convert to the water carriage system.

Few conversions have been carried out where it is necessary to provide septic tanks, due no doubt to the great cost involved, the £10. 0. 0. grant being no enducement in these cases. Good progress has continued to be made, however, in the sewered parishes.

New drainage systems laid to the sewer	...	...	68
New water closets constructed to replace pan closets			129
Additional W.C. accommodation provided	...	...	6
New drainage to septic tanks	...	...	9
Septic tanks provided	...	...	9

Pail closets abolished	...	...	...	...	...	129
Revisits of inspection	...	...	...	...	...	375
Pail closets provided	...	...	...	...	...	2
Septic tanks abolished	...	...	...	...	...	1
W.Cs. abolished	...	...	...	...	...	4

SEWAGE DISPOSAL

At the year end good progress had been made with the Packington sewerage scheme, this scheme having proceeded much more speedily than any other post-war scheme in the Rural District. The long drawn out Appleby Magna sewage scheme was nearing completion together with the part of the scheme dealing with the parish of Snarestone, and the works are in use. There has been very great nuisance in these two villages in the past due to sewage gaining access to ditches and brookcourses, and it is a relief to know that these nuisances have been abated to all intents and purposes.

I must again draw your attention to the position of a number of older works, particularly Measham and Ravenstone where overloading is about 100%. The Newbold Council house works now consists of a ring of disintegrating brickwork, with sewage being discharged on to filter media on the centre of the brickwork.

Mining subsidence damage to sewers continued to give cause for concern. It is necessary to empty two sewers at weekly intervals in order to keep these running, and in addition, two others are emptied at two monthly intervals and one flushed to keep this operating. Ultimately there will have to be considerable expenditure to remedy these defects. The cesspool emptying machine has been invaluable; without it the sewers could not have been kept running.

One sewer at Oakthorpe, already badly affected, will be further affected by subsidence and at the year end a scheme was being prepared to minimise the effects of this.

Set out on the following pages are details showing the position regarding sewage disposal schemes in the various parishes.

Sewage Works and Pumping Stations

Village

Donisthorpe

Treatment Works

One overloaded works. One sewage pumping station.

<u>Village</u>	<u>Treatment Works</u>
Measham/Oakthorpe	One overloaded works.
Appleby/Snarestone	One satisfactory works. One satisfactory pumping station.
Heather	Works two years old. Satisfactory effluent not obtained, possibly due to exceptionally strong sewage and flooding from brookcourse.
Newton Burgoland	One small works for Council houses.
Ravenstone	One grossly overloaded works.
Swannington	One overloaded works
Newbold	One small works for an estate of privately built houses. One small works for an estate of Council houses in extremely poor state of repair.
Coleorton	One small works to deal with sullage water from Council houses.
Osgathorpe	One pumping station. (Sewage pumped to Coalville U.D.C. works).
Worthington	One satisfactory works.

Capital Schemes under investigation, in progress, approved or completed during the year

	<u>Estimated cost</u>	<u>Progress at 31/12/58</u>
Appleby Magna	£44,200	Scheme 99% completed.
Snarestone	£12,300	Scheme 99% completed
Packington	£23,000	Sewers laid; 60% of connections made. Pumping station 50% completed.

	<u>Estimated cost</u>	<u>Progress at 31/12/58</u>
Measham Sewage Works extension	£17,800	Scheme approved by Ministry. No starting date fixed.
Atherstone Road, Measham	£11,500	Ministry would not approve this scheme in 1953.
Normanton-le-Heath	£ 9,100	Scheme deferred on grounds of high cost.
Coleorton and part Swannington	Not known	Ministry would not approve this section of the joint scheme with Worthington in 1953.
Acresford	Not known	Ministry would not approve this scheme in 1952 and the Council decided to take no further action at that time.
Ravenstone Sewage Works extension	Not known	Scheme not yet prepared.
Chilcote	Not known	Report being prepared.
Sweepstone/Newton Burgoland	Not known	Revised scheme being prepared.
Worthington (Newbold Griffydam section)	Not known	Consideration being given to continuation of this scheme.

Inspection of sewers		40
Blocked sewers cleared		8
Inspections whilst work in hand		23
Inspections of sewage works and pumping stations		234

STREET NUMBERING

During the year properties in the parish of Sweepstone were numbered and preparatory work for the numbering of Swannington was put in hand.

WATER SUPPLY

During the year several meetings took place in connection with the Ministry policy of re-grouping of water undertakings. At the year end, no final decision had been made as to the way this should be carried out, whether by the formation of a Joint Water Board for North West Leicestershire, or by amalgamation with Leicester Corporation.

A three inch main was extended so as to provide a supply of water to the remaining properties in the parish of Staunton Harold and was brought into service.

All the parishes (with the exception of Bardon) in the Rural District now have a piped water supply, although there are a considerable number of rather isolated properties not yet supplied, chiefly because of the initial cost of laying supply pipes. At the year end a scheme for chlorination had been prepared.

Wells closed for drinking purposes	30
Houses inspected regarding water supply	18
Number of samples taken for analysis	9
Number of samples satisfactory	4
Number of samples unsatisfactory	5

HOUSING

New Buildings, Additions, Extensions, Improvements &c.,

New houses by local authority	...	...	...	...	28
New houses by private enterprise (includes 8 bungalows)					30
New houses drained to sewer	...	...	...	...	52
New houses drained to septic tanks		...	...	...	6
New houses with water from public main	...		...	...	58
New houses with water closets	...	...	...	...	58
Garages completed	...	...	...	...	92
Workshops	...	...	...	...	1
Sale room and extensions		...	...	...	3
Car Parks	...	...	...	...	1
Sports Pavilions	...	...	...	...	3
Canteens and extensions	...	...	...	...	2
Office accommodation	...	...	...	...	4
Farm buildings	...	...	...	...	11
Village Halls	...	...	...	...	1
Sub-Stations	...	...	...	...	1
Pit Head Baths	...	...	...	...	1

Clubs	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Additional W.Cs.			...	...	...	...	2
Miscellaneous	...		...	...	...	...	5
Visits of inspection		...	...	...	...	...	657

Town and Country Planning Act, 1947

Administration in connection with development under the Act is carried out by the Council in conjunction with the Western Area Sub-Committee of the Leicestershire County Council.

During the year 188 applications were made in respect of permission to develop.

Building Byelaws

During the year, 202 plans were submitted for approval under the building byelaws.

Loans for House Purchase

17 properties were inspected during the year as a result of requests for loans in connection with house purchase.

Construction of new Council Houses

The Worthington housing site was completed during the year. This site comprises 72 houses, 18 flats and 2 shops together with roadworks, sewers, water mains &c The final total cost of this estate was £164,961. 5. 2., made up as follows :

Land purchase	£1,488. 18. 1.
Roads and sewers	£74,408. 0. 0.
House construction	£139,063. 13. 0.

The average cost per dwelling was £1,788. 3. 5. made up as follows :

Land	£16. 3. 8.
Roads and sewers	£265. 6. 3.
Building	£1,506. 13. 6.

Plans and specifications for the development of the 1st stage of the Appleby Magna housing site were prepared; namely roadworks, sewers and water mains for the development of the frontage and a short length of access road suitable for the erection of 12 houses and 2 pairs of bungalows.

Tenders were accepted at the end of the year for the erection of 4 houses at Snarestone.

Improvement Grants

Although a considerable number of informal meetings took place with owners of property in an effort to persuade them to take advantage of the improvement grant provisions of the Housing Act only 13 actual formal applications were made - a reduction of 3 over the previous year. There were again mostly owner/occupiers of property rather than owners of rented property.

Number of applications approved	...	...	13
Number of works completed	...	...	13
Total amount paid by way of grant		£ 3,105. 10. 0.	
Club rooms converted to bungalows	...	...	1
Bathrooms	...	...	12
Hot water systems	...	...	12
W.Cs. provided	...	...	8
Drainage	...	...	8
New windows	...	...	37
New floors	...	...	17
Fireplaces	...	...	6
Septic tanks provided	...	...	6
Damp proof courses provided	...	...	5
Visits and revisits	...	...	166

Rent Act, 1957

Rent Restrictions Regulations, 1957

Applications for Certificate of Disrepair	28
Premises inspected	28
Notices served on landlords	27
Undertakings accepted	21
Cases where no undertakings given	6
Undertakings not carried out	37
Certificates of Disrepair issued	52
Applications for cancellation of Certificates of Disrepair	9
Applications for cancellation approved	7
Applications for cancellation refused	2
Revisits of inspection	44

Defects remedied

Wall plaster repaired	...	...	...	...	...	3
Cracked walls repaired	...	...	...	...	...	1
Stairs repaired	...	...	...	...	...	1
Boilers repaired	...	...	...	...	...	1
Ovens repaired	...	...	...	...	...	1
Decorations renewed	...	...	...	...	...	1
Ceiling plaster repaired	...	...	...	...	...	4
Eaves gutters repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	3
Doors and frames repaired	...	...	...	...	...	7
Soft water tanks repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	2
Windows repaired	...	...	...	...	...	21
Roofs repaired	...	...	...	...	...	3
Floors repaired	...	...	...	...	...	6
Chimney stacks repaired	...	...	...	...	...	1
Skirtings repaired	...	...	...	...	...	1
External pointing	...	...	...	...	...	1
Fireplaces repaired	...	...	...	...	...	1
Walls repaired	...	...	...	...	...	1
Coal stores repaired	...	...	...	...	...	1

Slum Clearance

Work in connection with slum clearance has continued to be pressed forward.

Visits of inspection .. 82

Closing Orders

Dwellings in respect of which Closing Orders made	...	5
Number of dwellings closed	...	5
Number of persons rehoused	...	11
Closing Orders revoked following renovation of property	...	3

Demolition Orders

Dwellings in respect of which Demolition Orders made	...	23
Number of dwellings demolished as a result of	...	29
Demolition Orders	...	60
Number of persons rehoused	...	5
Dwellings where undertakings to renovate were accepted	...	

Reconditioning of Property

At the year end a contract had been entered into for the reconditioning of 10 houses at Jubilee Terrace, Donisthorpe recently purchased by the Council.

The work includes the provision of damp proof courses, new floors, windows, pantries, bathrooms and hot water systems &c. The purchase price for the ten houses was £2,450. 0. 0. and the anticipated cost of reconditioning £9,776. 16. 4.

I wish to express my appreciation for the confidence and interest shown by the Chairman and Members of the Council during the year, to Dr. Segerdal, the Clerk of the Council and the Accountant for their help and co-operation, and to express my thanks to the members of my department for their loyal and willing assistance.

I am,

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

C. S. Curtis.

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